

Message

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**From:** Chesnutt, John [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E1CD369E94474C2C8A876FB16943320A-JCHESNUT]  
**Sent:** 3/19/2021 6:27:24 PM  
**To:** Lyons, John [Lyons.John@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

I don't know if CBS went out. Yesterday I told Julia to tell me when it did, so I could send the final to NOAA asap. I was going to ping her this morning but haven't yet. I'll do so now.

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**From:** Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:25 AM  
**To:** Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Thanks John – I am sending Mike a couple of suggestions.

I agree – by the way, has the CBS response gone out? That may fit the need of a statement that we have acknowledged that we need.

John Lyons  
Acting Deputy Director  
Region 9 Superfund and Emergency Management Division  
(415) 972-3889  
(415) 265-0908(cell)

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**From:** Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:22 AM  
**To:** Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Not sure what to say at this point. There's nothing really wrong with this version, other than the suggested edit I sent you earlier. It's unfortunate the additional info was deleted, as it paints a better picture as to the complexity of the situation and thus why any substantive, immediate, prioritized actions wrt to the deep water are a challenge and not something that should be hastily rushed into.

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**From:** Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:07 AM  
**To:** Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

For your review – not sure what Mike's message means

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**From:** Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:02 AM  
**To:** Manzanilla, Enrique <Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Lyons, John <[Lyons.John@epa.gov](mailto:Lyons.John@epa.gov)>; Herrera, Angeles <[Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov](mailto:Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Hi Enrique,

I took a first cut at shortening this, following Debbie's guidelines, and tried to preserve (in the deep ocean disposal section) the point about EPA not being in the lead...as well as the language about trustee agencies.

Let me know what you think of the attached. Also, I'll of course cc you on my response to Debbie, so that if you have important points to make about preserving certain substantive arguments you can present those directly to Debbie as she finalizes the letter.

Regards,

Mike Alpern - Director, Public Affairs  
U.S. EPA Region 9 (Pacific Southwest)  
(415) 947-4142 | [alpern.michael@epa.gov](mailto:alpern.michael@epa.gov)  
Follow us on Twitter: @EPAregion9



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**From:** Manzanilla, Enrique <[Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov](mailto:Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:30 AM

**To:** Alpern, Michael <[Alpern.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Alpern.Michael@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Lyons, John <[Lyons.John@epa.gov](mailto:Lyons.John@epa.gov)>; Herrera, Angeles <[Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov](mailto:Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Thanks Mike. We can help of course shorten the letter.

We were trying to balance the fact that an initial conversation was had with the Senator so it would seem an abbreviated response would only instigate another request from the Senator. We also wanted to make sure that we pointed to the trustee agencies as having a historical and continuing role. EPA should not be on point on the deep ocean disposal sites.

But the letter can be shortened. Do you want to take the first cut? Or do you want us to do that?

Enrique

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**From:** Alpern, Michael

**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 9:05 AM

**To:** Jordan, Deborah <[Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov](mailto:Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov)>; Gill, Sonam <[Gill.Sonam@epa.gov](mailto:Gill.Sonam@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Manzanilla, Enrique <[Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov](mailto:Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov)>; Lyons, John <[Lyons.John@epa.gov](mailto:Lyons.John@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Hi Deborah,

Sure, I'll take a cut, following the guidelines you set out.

Regards,

Mike Alpern - Director, Public Affairs

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**From:** Jordan, Deborah <[Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov](mailto:Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:01 PM  
**To:** Gill, Sonam <[Gill.Sonam@epa.gov](mailto:Gill.Sonam@epa.gov)>; Alpern, Michael <[Alpern.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Alpern.Michael@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Manzanilla, Enrique <[Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov](mailto:Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov)>; Lyons, John <[Lyons.John@epa.gov](mailto:Lyons.John@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Hi Sonam and Mike,

This response is much too detailed. It should not contain the history, which the Senator's letter shows that she knows, nor should it contain the level of detail that even her staff would have a hard time understanding. It should contain assurance that we prioritize the PV Shelf cleanup and that we're taking steps to deal with the deep-sea contamination. Here is an edited first paragraph:

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Beyond that, the letter should say what we're doing, briefly, that we're doing it as expeditiously as we can, etc., in no more than a page or so. The NOAA draft is at about the right level of detail, although ours should certainly contain more information because we're doing work to remediate the site. We should address the site cleanup first and the deep-sea, multi-agency issue second.

Mike, would you try to edit based on this guidance? I found our website helpful in explaining the big picture of our cleanup, which would probably be of more interest to the Senator than the description contained in the current draft.

Thank you.

Deborah Jordan  
Deputy Regional Administrator  
U.S. EPA Region 9 / Pacific Southwest  
75 Hawthorne Street (ORA)  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415-297-5237 (mobile)

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**From:** Gill, Sonam <[Gill.Sonam@epa.gov](mailto:Gill.Sonam@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:43 PM  
**To:** Jordan, Deborah <[Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov](mailto:Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Manzanilla, Enrique <[Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov](mailto:Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov)>; Alpern, Michael <[Alpern.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Alpern.Michael@epa.gov)>; Lyons, John <[Lyons.John@epa.gov](mailto:Lyons.John@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** For Review and Signature: Response to Senator Feinstein letter dated March 8, 2021

Hi Deborah,

Attached is a draft response to Senator Feinstein's incoming letter dated March 8, 2021 regarding DDT contamination off the California coast. This draft has been reviewed by Enrique and Mike. Please let me know if you have any comments.

Thank you,

Sonam Gill  
Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX  
75 Hawthorne St.  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[gill.sonam@epa.gov](mailto:gill.sonam@epa.gov)  
415.972.3380